Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, Karen Gerdes has dedicated the past 34 years to a career in the South Dakota State Legislature earning a reputation with the utmost integrity and professionalism and has faithfully discharged the duties as the Chief Clerk in the House for the last 20 years; and,

Whereas, Karen has shown remarkable insight for managing a variety of positions. She began her career in the legislature in December 1976 as an MT/ST operator and continued mastering her skills until she became the Assistant Chief Clerk for the 1990 Legislative Session and the Chief Clerk in 1991; and,

Whereas, Karen knows procedural rules as well as anyone, and has assisted nine different speakers to discharge their duties and responsibilities; and,

Whereas, Over the past 20 years as Chief Clerk, Karen has worked with only two 1st Assistants, three 2nd Assistants, and five 3rd Assistants because she knows how to pick a great staff and delegate; and,

Whereas, Karen always wears a big smile and is accommodating to all, including over 300 legislators she has worked with over the years; and,

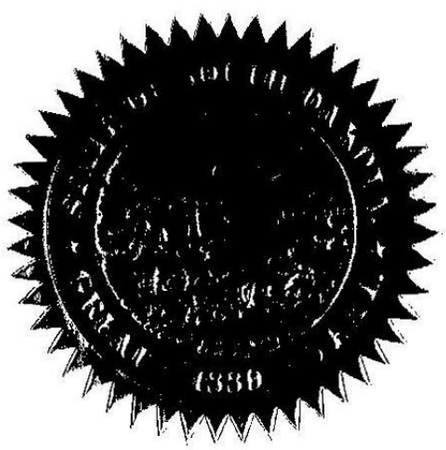
Whereas, Karen's colleagues will honor her on March 2, 2010, for her dedication to state government and will also celebrate her birthday on this day; and,

Whereas, It is fitting and proper as Governor to commend this outstanding South Dakotan for her years of dedicated service:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 2, 2010, as

KAREN GERDES DAY

in South Dakota, and I join with her colleagues, family, and friends in wishing her Happy Birthday and thanking her for her years of service.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-fourth Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Ten.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State